(a) whether it is a fact that National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has recorded a 56 per cent project completion rate across all phases of NHDP in 2007-08;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The phase-wise details of actual achievement under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) during 2007-08 are indicated as below:-

NHDP Phase	2007-08	
	Target (kms)	Achievement (kms)
NHDP Phase-I	437	213
NHDP Phase-II	2013	1020
NHDP Phase-III	435	381
NHDP Phase-V	0	0
Total	2885	1614

(c) Does not arise.

Highway construction targets

1205. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Hindustan Times dated 19 May, 2008 to the effect that only 50 per cent of the highway construction targets for 2007-08 have been achieved by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government proposes to take to improve the performance of NHAI and time likely to be taken for the completion of projects in hand; and

(c) the details of construction targets fixed for the year 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) In the year 2007-08, as against the target of 2885 Kms for completion of construction across all phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP), achievement was 1614 kms. Progress of work has been affected due to various reasons which include delays in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, obtaining of environmental

clearances, and poor performance by some contractors etc. In order to expedite completion of projects, monitoring of projects has been stepped up by NHAI and measures initiated against the poor performing contractors in terms of the contractual provisions. The interaction with State Governments and concerned Ministries/Departments have also been intensified for early resolution of issues of land acquisition and various clearances etc. for the projects.

While 4-laning of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) under NHDP Phase-I is almost 97.5% complete, the scheduled completion date for other phases of NHDP being implemented by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) are as under:

NHDP Phase-II	—	December, 2009
NHDP Phase-III	—	December, 2013
NHDP Phase-V	—	December, 2012
NHDP Phase-VI	—	December, 2015
NHDP Phase-VII	—	December, 2014

(c) For the year 2008-09, a target of 3519 kms has been fixed for NHAI for completion of construction across various phases of NHDP.

Repair of roads after rains, floods, etc.

1206. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that after monsoon rains, floods and landslides there is urgent need for repair of State-highways and roads to National Highways but States are sitting on the funds meant for road upkeep;

(b) whether Government is also aware that so far only 33 per cent of the given amount for upgrading roads of States as well as National Highways have been spent;

(c) if so, the States having poor spending record;

(d) whether Government is considering to take appropriate action against those erring States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of the National Highways in the country. State-highways and roads leading to National Highways are the responsibility of the respective State Government.

(b) During the current financial year 2008-2009, an expenditure of Rs. 1657.06 crore has been incurred against an allocation of Rs. 2244.79 crore up to the end of November 2008 for the development of National Highways in the country, which is about 73.8% of the allocation.